

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Accompanying Continuation Application under 37 CFR
1.53(b) :

Prior Application: M. Mori et al
USSN 08/916,154
Filed: September 2, 1997

Group Art Unit: 2764
Examiner: N. Nguyen
For: AUTOMATIC AUCTION METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 18, 2000

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application
as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as set forth below.

Page 2, line 24, change "presents" to --present--.

Page 3, line 24, change "strained" to --constrained--.

Page 4, line 12, after "about" insert --an--;

line 14, after "about" insert --the--;

line 19, after "about" insert --the--; and

line 22, after "and" insert --the--.